

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Kley, Victor B.

Application No.: --Unknown--

Filed: July 31, 2001

For: OBJECT INSPECTION AND/OR
MODIFICATION SYSTEM AND
METHOD

Examiner:

Art Unit:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-referenced application, please make the following amendments to the application:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please delete all previous cross references, and replace page 1, lines 5 to 29 of the specification, as filed, with the following text:

--This application is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application No. 09/355,072, filed July 21, 1999, which is a National Phase filing of PCT Patent Application PCT/US98/01528, filed January 21, 1998.

PCT Patent Application PCT/US98/01528 is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application No. 08/906,602, filed December 10, 1996, now U.S. Patent No. 6,265,711, which is a file wrapper continuation of U.S. Patent Application No. 08/281,883, filed July 28, 1994, now abandoned.

PCT Patent Application PCT/US98/01528 is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application No. 08/885,014, filed July 1, 1997, now U.S. Pat. No. 6,144,028, issued November 7, 2000, which is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application No. 08/412,380, filed March 29, 1995, now abandoned, which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application No. 08/281,883, filed July 28, 1994, now abandoned.

PCT Patent Application PCT/US98/01528 is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application No. 08/776,361, filed May 16, 1997, which is a National Phase filing of PCT Application No. PCT/US95/09553, filed July 28, 1995, which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application No. 08/412,380, filed March 29, 1995, now abandoned, which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application No. 08/281,883, filed July 28, 1994, now abandoned.

PCT Patent Application PCT/US98/01528 is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application No. 08/506,516, filed July 24, 1995, now U.S. Patent No. 5,751,683.

PCT Patent Application PCT/US98/01528 is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application No. 08/613,982, filed March 4, 1996, now U.S. Patent No. 5,756,997, issued May 26, 1998.

PCT Patent Application PCT/US98/01528 is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application No. 08/786,623, filed January 21, 1997, now abandoned.

PCT Patent Application PCT/US98/01528 is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application No. 08/827,953, filed April 6, 1997, now abandoned.--.

On page 5, line 30, replace "and/or inspection" with --inspection and/or modification--.

On page 10, line 28, replace "modifications to the" with --modifying--.

On page 13, line 18, replace "Tip" with --Probe--.

On page 59, line 15, insert --beam-- after "laser".

On page 73, line 10, replace "302" with --402--.

On page 79, lines 14 to 18, delete all of the text.

On page 65 line 26, page 68 lines 19, 25 and 28, page 71 lines 34 and 35, page 72 lines 1 and 3, page 73 lines 12, 13 and 14, page 75 line 18, page 78 line 8, page 79 lines 21 and 27, page 80 lines 12 and 34, page 81 line 3, page 81 line 36, page 82 lines 3, 19, 21, 26 and 37, page 84 line 11, page 87 line 37, page 88 lines 1, 18 and 19, page 89 lines 16, 18 and 34, page 90 lines 2 and 11, page 91 line 16, and page 95 line 15, replace each occurrence of "eight" with --eighth--.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel all claims except claims 1 to 4 on page 121, lines 3-26. Thus, the misnumbered claims at page 121, lines 30-36, and all claims on pages 122-141 should be canceled.

REMARKS

Claims 1-4 are pending.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 650-326-2400.

Respectfully submitted,



David N. Slone
Reg. No. 28,572

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP
Two Embarcadero Center, 8th Floor
San Francisco, California 94111-3834
Tel: (650) 326-2400
Fax: (415) 576-0300